From: Morning Consult
To: lmartin@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: Morning Consult Tech, Presented by Autos2050: EU Reportedly Set to Hit Google With Another Antitrust Fine Next Week
Date: Friday, March 15, 2019 5:31:54 AM

By Sam Sabin

Top Stories

- Margrethe Vestager, Europe's competition commissioner, will announce next week that Google is being fined for hampering potential rival search advertisers, according to three people familiar with the matter, following an investigation focused on Google's AdSense business. The commission can fine up to $13 billion, but the fine is expected to be smaller than the maximum. (Financial Times)
- Sens. Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii) and Roy Blunt (R-Mo.) introduced a bill that would regulate the commercial use of facial recognition technology by requiring companies to gain a person's consent before using the technology in public places and before sharing any of their data with third parties. Both

Microsoft Corp. and the Center for Democracy and Technology support the bill. (The Hill)

- Apple Inc. said in a statement its app store policies are fair and that Spotify Technologies SA is treated no differently than other developers who use the platform, alleging that the music streaming service is seeking to obtain the benefits of the App Store without paying the fees that Apple says are necessary for maintaining its ecosystem. Spotify accused Apple in a complaint to European regulators of undercutting rival services in the stores through its transaction fees. (The New York Times)

Chart Review

Explore Amazon's wide Washington reach
Axios

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

03/15/2019

SXSW 2019

FCC's March open commission meeting	10:30 am
Technology Policy Institute's panel discussion on "Blockchain 201: Policy Questions for 2019"	12:30 pm

03/19/2019

TIA Policy Forum co-hosted with Samsung on industry innovations and government partnerships in managing the ICT supply chain	12:00 pm
The Center for Growth and Opportunity at Utah State University's "Unpacking Privacy: Perspectives and Principles" event on Capitol Hill	2:00 pm

03/21/2019

Forbes' 2018 #BoardForward Awards	
FT Digital Surgery Summit	8:00 am

View full calendar

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General

Top Huawei official urges US to ease restrictions
Jacqueline Thomsen, The Hill

A top executive for Huawei's U.S. branch on Thursday defended the Chinese company against allegations that it poses a national security risk, saying the company wants to work with the U.S. to address those concerns. Andy Purdy, the chief security officer for Huawei USA, told The Hill in an interview that U.S. officials have not indicated a willingness to engage in conversations with the company to discuss cyber concerns.

Apple touts data privacy in TV ad campaign
Stephen Nellis, Reuters

Apple Inc on Thursday launched a television advertising campaign promoting its stance on data privacy, seeking to differentiate itself from tech industry rivals such as Alphabet Inc's Google and Facebook Inc that have become the target of regulatory scrutiny over the issue.

Uber competitors say demand has plunged under new NYC rules
Emily Birnbaum, The Hill

Uber's competitors Juno and Lyft in court filings this week said fewer riders are using their services since New York City began implementing its new minimum wage rules for drivers, the first of its kind in the country.

Amazon gets an edge with its secret squad of PhD economists
Lydia DePillis, CNN

Estimating inflation is a tricky and complex task. In the United States, the government's Bureau of Labor Statistics sends testers to stores to record the price of everything from cheese to tires, and surveys consumers over the phone about what they spent on gas and funeral services.

The real tech regulators
Sara Fischer, Axios

Media exposés and boycotts from big-name advertisers are doing what government regulators haven't: They're forcing the country's biggest tech companies to change their products, policies and strategies.

Stocks Ending Week on Solid Footing; Dollar Steady: Markets Wrap
Todd White, Bloomberg

European stocks gained alongside U.S. index futures as worries appeared to ebb about the slowdown in global growth. Emerging-market shares advanced, while the dollar and Treasuries held steady.

Intellectual Property and Antitrust

EU antitrust watchdog considering Apple probe: Vestager
Tassilo Hummel, Reuters

The European Union's competition watchdog is considering opening a probe of Apple over allegations that it uses its app store to gain an advantage on its own services over rivals', the authority's chief said on Thursday.

Qualcomm can't get back the billions it paid Apple, judge rules
Shara Tibken, CNET

Apple can keep the billions of dollars that Qualcomm paid it as part of their 2013 contract, a judge has ruled. And Qualcomm's still on the hook for payments it stopped making.

Telecom, Wireless and TV

Ajit Pai's plan for phone location data never mentions the word "privacy"
Jon Brodkin, Ars Technica

Smartphone 911 location data is getting more precise, but the Federal Communications Commission isn't updating its privacy rules despite carriers' history of selling their customers' location data. AT&T, T-Mobile, and Sprint were recently found to be selling detailed location data to third parties, despite rules banning such sales, and requiring that data to be used only for 911 purposes.

Senators: FCC Should Diversify Broadband Mapping Data Sources
John Eggerton, Broadcasting & Cable

A bipartisan quartet of senators has introduced a bill to improve the FCC's broadband coverage maps, which have come in for a lot of criticism from the Hill and elsewhere. The Improving Broadband Mapping Accuracy Act requires the FCC to launch a rulemaking, which includes collecting and vetting public comment, on whether to use consumer-reported data and state and local government data to improve the maps currently reliant on industry self-reporting.

Ajit Pai Promised New Jobs and 'Better, Cheaper' Internet. His ISP Pals Have a Different Plan
Dell Cameron, Gizmodo

During the push to repeal net neutrality in 2017, FCC Chairman Ajit Pai made a lot of big promises. At the top of the list were assurances that if America would only revert back to "light-touch" regulation of the broadband industry (as the two-time Courage Award winner put it), we'd all see huge boosts in network investment, in new jobs, and in access to a "better, cheaper internet" for all Americans.

Mobile Technology and Social Media

Facebook, YouTube Blindsided by Mosque Shooter's Live Video
Michael Tighe and Reed Stevenson, Bloomberg

Social media platforms including Facebook Inc. are facing harsher scrutiny after a shooter accused of killing 49 people in two mosques in New Zealand appeared to livestream the murders over the internet.

YouTube says it bans preteens from its site. But it's still delivering troubling content to young children.
Craig Timberg, The Washington Post

The YouTube video starts with a popular British children's cartoon character, Peppa Pig, introducing herself and her family, but there are signs of trouble almost immediately. During the ninth second, Peppa's mother opens her mouth and shouts, "Smoke weed!"

Twitter wants workforce to be at least 5% black, 5% Latinx by the end of this year

Megan Rose Dickey, TechCrunch

Twitter unveiled its latest diversity report and announced a new vice president of people experience and head of diversity and inclusion. In order to "unify I&D with critical People functions under one leader who owns the decisions for both," Twitter CMO Leslie Berland tweeted today, the company promoted Dalana Brand to VP of People Experience and Head of Diversity and Inclusion.

Austria to introduce digital tax after failure of EU-wide plan
Francois Murphy, Reuters

Austria will press ahead with a planned tax on Internet giants after plans for an EU-wide levy fell through this week, Finance Minister Hartwig Loeger said on Friday. Austria said in January that it would tax firms like Google, Amazon, Facebook and Alibaba 3 percent of their advertising revenue from within Austria.

Facebook Loses Top Executives, Including Chris Cox
Mike Isaac, The New York Times

Two of Facebook's top executives - one regarded as the company's No. 3, and the other the head of its WhatsApp messaging service - are leaving after disagreements with Mark Zuckerberg, the chief executive, over the social network's future direction.

Slack says it removed 28 accounts affiliated with hate groups
Marisa Fernandez, Axios

Slack said in a blog on Thursday that it investigated and removed 28 accounts that were clearly connected to known hate groups.

Cybersecurity and Privacy

Wyden lambastes voting machine makers as 'accountable to nobody'
Eric Geller, Politico

Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) on Thursday attacked the small but powerful group of companies that controls the production of most voting equipment used in the U.S.

Creative Commons says copyright can't protect your photos from ending up in a facial recognition database
Shannon Liao, The Verge

This week, NBC reported that facial recognition researchers at companies like IBM often feed their algorithms photos from publicly available collections, only protected by a Creative Commons license, without requesting permission from the people who are photographed. The incident raised the question of whether or not such training could be considered a valid use under the Creative Commons licenses.

No, Facebook and Instagram's blackout wasn't a cyberattack
Joe Uchill, Axios

Not everything is a cyberattack. Facebook fended off rumors that an outage of its products Wednesday night, including Facebook and Instagram, was the result of a DDoS attack.

Health and Human Services IG sizes up department's cybersecurity vulnerabilities
Joe Warminsky, FedScoop

The Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Inspector General says it instituted an ongoing series of cybersecurity audits on HHS networks in response to what it found during penetration tests in fiscal 2016-17.

DARPA Is Building a $10 Million, Open Source, Secure Voting System
Kim Zetter, Motherboard

For years security professionals and election integrity activists have been pushing voting machine vendors to build more secure and verifiable election systems, so voters and candidates can be assured election outcomes haven't been manipulated.

A Message from Autos2050®:

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Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

The Evolving Role of the Federal CISO in 2019
Bob Dunn, Morning Consult

With the reintroduction and unanimous passage of the Federal CIO Authorization Act of 2019 in the U.S. House of Representatives, empowering our government's highest IT and security leaders is quickly evolving from a vision to a reality. Recognizing the government's reliance on technology, the Federal CIO Authorization Act aims to elevate the role of the federal chief information officer, in addition to defining the chief information security officer position.

Why states should push forward with cyber laws
Chris Wysopal, The Hill

The list of Democratic presidential candidates continues to grow, and three of those hopefuls offer backgrounds and legislative records that could help advance the issue of cybersecurity standards at the federal level.

Facebook's awkward election sauce - too toxic for 2020?
Pablo Manriquez, Roll Call

When Democrats hold their presidential primary debates this year, two political heavies from 2016 may be absent from the stage - Fox News and Facebook. Democratic National Committee Chairman Tom Perez announced last Wednesday that Fox News will not get a debate during the current election cycle.

Research Reports

China to Overtake US in AI Research

Field Cady and Oren Etzioni, Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence

In 2017, China announced plans to become the world leader in AI by 2030. In response, the Semantic Scholar project has analyzed over two million academic AI papers published through the end of 2018.

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